

Short Picks

Week 4 was very tough on this prognosticator as I posted just 11 wins against 6 losses. I should get back on track this week although I have chosen some very good contests.

PFN's rankings in the AAAA received a shake down as no less than 8 teams in the big school division made significant moves. I notice many teams in the other three classifications having a time of it breaking into the rankings. Still lots of undefeated and one loss teams out there. Give it another two/three weeks and maybe your team will break into Vetock's top ten. Unlike the college game, this whole thing will get sorted out in the coming weeks.

Week five is the half way point in the regular season. Its' time for the wheat to be separated from the chaff. In a Thursday night game, Sto-Rox attempts to get back on the winning track after losing for the first time last week. The Vikings host the undefeated Rebels of Seton LaSalle. Vikes must contain the Rebels quarterback Anthony Rizza. I think the Vikes will be fired-up after last week's loss. A very close decision...**Sto-Rox.**

In another Thursday game, Horace Furness puts a 4-0 record on the line against the Wildcats of Bok Vo-Tech. The Wildcats are off to another stellar year with a 4-0 record with hopes of duplicating last year's 11-1 campaign. The Wildcats will be tested but will scratch out a victory at the finish...**Bok Vo-Tech.**

Moving into Friday's games, Avon Grove (4-0) welcomes the Cougars of Downingtown East. Avon Grove sports a very solid offense in averaging 42 points per game. Downingtown East's only loss came at the hands of Wilson West Lawn so I give a slight edge to...**Downingtown East.**

In an inter-district game, Williamsport's Millionaires host the Hazleton Cougars. Both teams opened the season with a loss, but have bounced back nicely with 3 straight wins. The Millionaires are coming off a 2-8 '08 season and need a win against the always tough Cougars to really get the confidence back. I like the Millionaires chances especially at home...**Williamsport.**

The Dunmore Bucks look like the team to beat in District Two, AA. Western Wayne takes a shot at the Bucks this week with hopes of pulling off the upset and improving the Wildcat record to 4-1. I think the Wildcats will be 3-2...**Dunmore.**

Another "king of the hill" is located in District 3. West York, District 3 champ in '08, might just be capable of repeating as district champs again this year. The Golden Knights of Eastern York (3-1) under head Coach Jeff Shutter will need their "A" game as they attempt to pull off an upset of the West York Bulldogs. Bulldogs make most teams shutter...**West York.**

In a AAAA game, the Chambersburg Trojans visit the Eagles of Cumberland Valley. The Trojans are off to one of their best starts in recent years. Cumberland Valley clipped the Trojans by a 55-3 count last season. I think that licking might give the Trojans some extra added incentive. Much closer this year as I would not be surprised by a Trojan victory, but I'm sticking with...**Cumberland Valley.**

Sam Stroh has his Braves of Shikellamy off to a great start with four victories. The Braves suffered through a 1-9 record last season. Can coach Sam's squad keep the momentum going this week when the Spartans of Hughesville come to town? The Spartans are also undefeated so you fans in the Sunbury/Hughesville area are in for a really great game. Seeing the Braves' 1-9 record last season leads me to pick with my heart and not my head...**Shikellamy**.

The Seals of Selinsgrove have not been challenged to date as they have outscored their four opponents by a 203-25 margin. Selinsgrove goes on the road this week to face District 2 power Berwick. The Bulldogs absorbed their first loss of the season last week by a 14-7 score. I predict the Bulldogs will be fighting mad, however the Seals look like a real contender...**Selinsgrove**.

The undefeated Richland Rams came real close to victory last season against the mighty Crimson Crushers of Bishop McCort. This year should be another barnburner. The Rams lost a 38-34 shootout with the Crimson Crushers in '09. The Crushers are picked to win the District 6 single A title while I look for the Rams to be in the title hunt in double A. This could be a repeat of last year's score...**Bishop McCort**.

Central (Martinsburg) will also have something to say about the AA title in District Six. The Red Dragons have rumbled through opponents in racking up four victories. The Red Dragons welcome the Bearcats of Huntingdon. I don't remember a Red Dragon team being this good since the teams of the legendary coach, Harry Clarke. Huntingdon enters this week with a 3-1 record and exits 3-2...**Central**.

Rochester (4-0) hosts Laurel (4-0). Traditionally, the Rams of Rochester are always a top ten team with a good chance to make it to the state finals. This year the Rams will be challenged by some top quality teams in Western Pa. One of those teams is the Spartans of Laurel. PFN has the Rams at number 2 while the Spartans are number 4. This should be one of the better games in District 7. The Spartan win in the opener over 'Da Bears of Clairton (PFN ranked fifth) impresses me enough to pick...**Laurel**.

In a District seven AAAA matchup, Pittsburgh Central Catholic travels to Woodland Hills home of the Wolverines. Central Catholic's Vikings only loss came in week three to Mt. Lebanon. Woody High suffered its only loss at the hands of Steubenville, Ohio. The Wolvarena will be rocking for this slobber knocker of the week. The Wolves' den is one tough place for visitors...**Woodland Hills**.

Two top quality programs in District Nine are the Red Raiders of Cameron County and the Coudersport Falcons. This year is no exception. The Falcons welcome the undefeated Red Raiders to what could be a forerunner to the District 9 playoffs. I don't see either of these two teams losing in the last four games of the season. This game is usually decided by a touchdown or less. Red Raiders by a whisker...**Cameron County**.

Linesville's Lions travel to Farrell to take on PFN's number one team in the state single A class. The Lions are undefeated but I don't think they are capable of the upset...**Farrell**.

Have you noticed St. Joe's Prep's schedule? What a meat grinder the Hawks played in the first four weeks, and this week is no easier. The Hawks visit Father Judge. Father Judge is 4-0. If the Hawks are not worn out...**St. Joe's Prep.**

In other games:

General McLane over Girard

Clairton over Fort Cherry

Marion Center over Penns Manor

Abington over William Tennent

Neshaminy over Harry S. Truman

Wyoming Area over Dallas

Valley View over Lakeland

Boiling Spring over East Pennsboro

Cocalico over Ephrata

Gov. Mifflin over Twin Valley

Red Lion over Spring Grove

Wilson over Cedar Crest

Bloomsburg over Loylasock Twp.

Wyalusing over Montgomery

Berlin over Rockwood

Bishop Carroll over Westmont

Forest Hills over Cambria Heights

Penn Cambria over Bishop Guilfoyle

Beaver Falls over Moon

Gateway over Norwin

North Hills over Pine-Richland

Brashear over Westinghouse

